

Python

Latin name	<i>Python molurus</i>	Polarity	Feminine
Family	<i>Pythonidae</i>	Element	Earth
		Planet	Sun
Etymology	Latin from Greek πυθιον (<i>python</i>)	Deities	Apollo, Gaia, Zombie

Varieties

The Pythons lay eggs. The Indian Python (*Python molurus*) lives in India, Sri Lanka, Malaya, and Indonesia.

Mythology

The python is an attribute of Apollo. Pytho was the name of the huge serpent which hatched from the mud of the deluge, which was slain by Apollo at Delphi. Hence Apollo with a python symbolises the Sun overcoming darkness. Apollo frees the sun from the powers of darkness and liberates the soul to find inspiration and knowledge. The python also represents the serpent of wisdom. The name python can also refer to Apollo, his priestess, or a frenzied person. In the Trojan wars, the death of Laocoön and his sons, who were killed by Apollo's python, made possible the entry of the wooden horse into Troy. Every four years, the Greeks held the Pythian Games near Delphi.

In West Africa, Zombie was the python god. His worship was taken to the Caribbean by the slaves, and he is still worshipped in some Voodoo ceremonies in Haiti and the Southern USA. The word zombie also means an undead person.

Symbolism

The python represents the powers of darkness and the feminine earth principle.